

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

The present invention is directed to novel nucleic acid molecules and methods for their use. More specifically, the novel nucleic acid molecules of the present invention are capable of tightly and specifically interacting with a target molecule of interest not only
5 through standard Watson-Crick base pairing, but also through additional features which allow the antisense molecules to become topologically "locked" onto the target nucleic acid, thereby imparting improved transcription and translation inhibitory properties.

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